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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:39am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The current Microsoft Settlement proposal is a bad idea. I strongly urge the court to not accept this settlement proposal.

The settlement agreed to between Microsoft the and Federal Goverment is a ruse. It amounts to nothing more than a skillfull manipulation of the justice system by Microsoft to turn a potential punishment in a reward. By providing this so-called billion dollar donation of equipment and software (mostly software) to schools, Microsof is doing two things:

1. Ensuring their monopoly continues and even grows by locking the educational market, previously a bastion of diversity between Apple and Microsoft, onto their products.
2. Escaping punishment by providing billions of dollars in software licenses, a product which has market value, but is of absolutely no actual cost to Microsoft.

Thank you,
Andrew Scott
Louisville, KY